

**From:** gclemen  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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Approval of the Microsoft Settlement will clear the way for continued growth in an industry that has completely stalled out over the past 3 years. It should be obvious to you by now that Microsoft's innovations in software drive the rest of the industry to produce more and better hardware and software products. Without that drive, the entire industry languishes for lack of direction, which is where we have all been lately.

The release of Windows XP is a good start toward recovery. I am using the product and have to say that Microsoft has some work to do to get it into the mainstream market. Nevertheless, any new operating system creates opportunities for other innovative products which either address the new problems caused by the new Microsoft product or take advantage of the new capabilities offered by the new Microsoft product. In all cases, the release will spur competitors to develop new products.

Notice that while the case was ongoing and no great innovative MS products hit the market, no other competitors emerged from the background to take the lead. The entire industry just sat on the sidelines.

I say Lets Get On With It! Approve the Settlement and let the market do what it is going to do. There are plenty of discerning software users who will give Microsoft a hard time about their products without the government involved.

Margaret Felts